

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation
and unfair campaign
practices. This
also draws into
question the forcing
of the Sinclair
affiliates of ABC to
not show the
respectfully
Nightline show
naming those who
have heroically lost
their lives in Iraq.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. The Public
Interest is not
served by renaming
campaign material
News. When large
companies control
the airwaves, we get
more of what's good
for their interests
and less of what is
needed for
democracy. Instead
of something
produced at
"Campaign News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see people
from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter, like public
safety, corruption
and health.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. The
license renewal

should show that
real public service
was done and that
the community served
agrees. Thank you.